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MISCELLANEOUS NOTICES

NOTICE Tongass National Forest, Juneau Ranger District Environmental Assessment

The Juneau Ranger District, Tongass National Forest, has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) in response to Coeur Alaska's proposal to conduct mineral exploration at the Kensington Gold Mine (KGM). The proposed action includes helicopter-supported hard rock drilling activities near KGM over a five-year period (2018-2022). Drilling will be limited to five areas of interest (AOI) defined in Coeur Alaska's Plan of Operations (Exploration Plan) and in the EA. Exact locations of drilling sites are not included in the Exploration Plan; Coeur Alaska will submit specific locations to the Forest Service each year for review. Annual surface disturbances related to drilling will be a maximum of 5 acres. Other methods of exploration include geophysical surveys, geologic mapping, and soil sampling; these activities may occur outside the proposed AOIs. The responsible official for this project is: Brad Orr, Juneau District Ranger, 8510 Mendenhall Loop Road, Juneau, Alaska 99801; (907)586-8808; borr@fs:fed.us.

The EA is available online at: https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=51870. The EA is also available for review at the Juneau Ranger District office. Additional information regarding this action can be obtained from: Curtis Caton, Geologist, 8510 Mendenhall Loop Road, Juneau, Alaska 99801; (907)789-6273; curtislcaton@fs.fed.us.

Specific written comments on the proposed project will be accepted for 30 days following the date of publication of this notice in the Juneau Empire, the newspaper of record for the Juneau Ranger District. The publication date in the newspaper of record is the exclusive means for calculating the comment period for a proposed action documented in an EA. Those wishing to comment should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source.

The proposed project is an activity that implements a land management plan, and is subject to 36 CFR 218, Subparts A and B. Comments must be within the scope of the proposed action, have a direct relationship to the proposed action, and include supporting reasons for the responsible official to consider. Persons submitting comments porting reasons for the responsible official to consider. Persons submitting comments must provide the following information: name and address, title of the proposed project, specific written comments, and signature or other verification of identity upon request. Only individuals or entities who submit timely and specific written comments about this proposed project during this or another public comment period established by the responsible official will be eligible to file an objection. Eligibility requirements for submitting objections are listed at 36 CFR 218.25(a) (3). It is the responsibility of the sender to ensure timely receipt of any comments submitted.

Specific written comments for the responsible official may be submitted via mail, other delivery service, email, fax, or in person to: Curtis Caton, 8510 Mendennall Loop Road, Juneau, Alaska 99801; curtislation@fs.fed.us; comments-alaska-tongass-juneau@fs.fed.us; Fax (907)586-8808. Business hours for hand-delivered comments is Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., excluding holidays. Electronic comments shall be in a format that is compatible with the current version of MS Word.

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